

REMARKS

Summary of Claim Status

Claims 1-9 and 11-20 are pending in the present application after entry of the present amendment. Claims 1-4, 9 and 11-12 are now rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shida et al. (U.S. Patent 6,014,406, "Shida") in view of Lundh et al. (U.S. 6,373,834, "Lundh") and Peterson et al. (U.S. Patent 6,804,246, "Peterson"). Claims 5-8 and 13-20 remain allowed.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the telephone conference on June 19, 2007 between the Examiner and John King, a representative for the Applicant, during which proposed claim amendments were discussed. Applicant has further amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant believes that the claims clearly distinguish over the combination of references, and are in a condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In response to the rejection of Claims 1-4, 9 and 11-12 as being unpatentable over Shida in view of Lundh and Peterson, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to indicate that channel bonding operations comprises aligning "different portions of a data stream transmitted in parallel by way of a plurality of data channels." Applicant has further amended Claim 1 to indicate that each of the first level transceivers "receives control signals by way of a first configurable path," and that each of the second level transceivers "receives control signals by way of a second configurable path." Finally, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to indicate that the controller of each transceiver enables "a control signal to be applied to the transceiver by way of a configurable path during a predetermined clock cycle to enable channel bonding operations for aligning the different portions of the data stream transmitted in parallel." Support for the amendment may be found at least in Figs. 1 and 5-6, and the text of paragraphs [0026]-[0031] and paragraph [0024] of Applicant's specification.

Applicant believes that the claims as amended clearly distinguish over the combination of references. Peterson is now cited for disclosing a master transceiver that performs channel bonding operations for aligning data of a data stream

transmitted in parallel by way of a plurality of data channels. It is suggested in the Office Action that Col. 9, lines 1-21 of Peterson disclose aligning data of a data stream transmitted in parallel. However, Peterson is directed to a mobile communication system in which the same baseband signal is sent from several base stations which may have overlapping coverage with a mobile device. Because the mobile device may have access to multiple base stations at one time, the mobile station may select the best channel. (Col. 7, lines 54-64). However, portions of a data stream are not aligned in Peterson. Rather, the mobile device selects data from one of the data streams. Accordingly, Peterson teaches away from Applicant's claims, which recite aligning different portions of a data stream which are transmitted in parallel, by sending the entire signal in parallel.

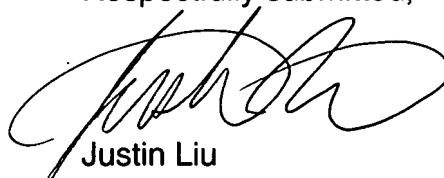
Further, Applicant claims a plurality of first level transceivers receiving a control signal by way of a first configurable path and a plurality of second level transceivers receiving a control signal by way of a second configurable path, each transceiver having a controller which enables "a control signal to be applied to the transceiver by way of a configurable path during a predetermined clock cycle to enable channel bonding operations for aligning the different portions of the data stream transmitted in parallel." Applicant further submits that the references also fail to disclose enabling a control signal to be applied to the transceivers by different configurable paths during a predetermined clock cycle to enable channel bonding operations for aligning the different portions of the data stream.

Applicant believes that Claim 1 as amended clearly distinguishes over the combination of references, and is in allowable form. Claims 2-4, 9 and 11-12 depend from Claim 1, and are thus also believed to be in allowable form. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of Claims 1-4, 9 and 11-12.

CONCLUSION

No new matter has been introduced by any of the above amendments. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that Claims 1-9 and 11-20 are in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is therefore requested. If action other than allowance is contemplated by the Examiner, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicant's attorney, Justin Liu, at 408-879-4641.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin Liu
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 51,959

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Katherine Stofer
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